

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00212 221957Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 MCT-01 /081 W
-----046173 230149Z /63

R 221545Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1713
INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS BELFAST 212

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UK, EI, NZ
SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER VISITS BELFAST

1. MR. AND MRS. ROBERT MULDOON AND A SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT SPENT ABOUT 24 HOURS IN BELFAST FROM THE MORNING OF JUNE 19 TO NOON JUNE 20. THEY APPARENTLY CAME AFTER SUDDEN DECISION TO VISIT PEACE PEOPLE AND FOLLOW UP ON MAIREAD CORRIGAN'S PROPOSAL SOME MONTHS AGO TO RESETTLE VICTIMS OF THE "TROUBLES" IN NEW ZEALAND. IN NORTHERN IRELAND PM VISITED TROOPS, INSPECTED TROUBLE SPOTS AND DINED WITH DON CONCANNON, MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND "DUTY MINISTER" JUNE 19. HE ATTENDED BREAKFAST WITH PEACE PEOPLE AND PRESS, CALLED ON LORD MAYOR AND LUNCHEDED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE AND POLITICAL LEADERS, INCLUDING HARRY WEST AND JOHN HUME AT HILLSBOROUGH HOUSE.

2. PRIME MINISTER FACED TOUGH QUESTIONING BY PRESS ABOUT "ESCAPE ROUTE" AND REASONS FOR NEW ZEALAND ACCEPTING PEOPLE "ON THE RUN" WHILE "ORDINARY, DECENT" PEOPLE COULD NOT RPT NOT IMMIGRATE. IN EQUALLY TOUGH REPLIES, MR. MULDOON
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DECLARED HE WOULD TAKE "A FEW" FAMILIES ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE ULSTER VIOLENCE ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. HE REFUSED TO DIVULGE NUMBERS INVOLVED AND HE SCOFFED AT SUGGESTION OPPOSITION WOULD FIND HIM VULNERABLE ON THIS - "ITS NOT A VERY BIG OPPOSITION."

3. ISSUES OF POSSIBLE INFILTRATION OF TERRORISTS, POSSIBLE

SPREAD OF ULSTER CONFLICT AND PREFERENCE GIVEN TO "EX-TERRORISTS"
IN PEACE PEOPLE RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES WILL NOT GO AWAY IN ULSTER
OR PRESUMABLY IN COUNTRIES WHERE "ESCAPE-ROUTE" FUNCTIONS.
LEADER OF OFFICIAL UNIONIST PARLIAMENTARY GROUP JAMES MOLYNEAUX,
WHO ALSO ATTENDED HILLSBOROUGH LUNCH, WAS INTERVIEWED ON
TELEVISION ABOUT PRESSURE HE RECEIVING FROM HIS SOUTH ANTRIM
CONSTITUENTS WHO HAVE BEEN REFUSED NEW ZEALAND VISAS.

SPICER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: BELFAST
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